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DATE: 1/4/73

DISCIPLINE: ENVIRONMENT

TITLE: APPLICATION OF REMOTE SENSING
IN THE STUDY OF VEGETATION AND
SOILS IN IDAHO (MMC # 313-3)

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

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SUMMARY: The objective is to determine the applica-
bility of ERTS A and other remote sensing imagery in
defining the characteristics and boundaries of vegeta-
tion-soil types in the sagebrush-grass and related
zones of Southern Idaho.

Additional ERTS 1 and U-2 aircraft imagery was re-
ceived and indexed. ERTS 1 coverage for the study
area is now complete for 3 series, from August through
October.

A trip was made in late November to the University
of Washington to consult with Dr. Colcord of the Civil
Engineering Dept., who is doing remote sensing
research under the EROS program. Valuable infor-
mation was obtained on equipment and methodology.
A few sets of ERTS 1 imagery from our study area
were viewed with an additive color viewer (12S
model 6040). These revealed a significant increase
in information obtained by mingling images of dif-
ferent wave lengths. Items where such enhancement
appeared most striking included lava outcrops of
relatively recent age and areas of meadow vegetation.

Preliminary mapping of broad vegetation and soil
types will begin on receipt of the additive color viewer
and 70 mm projector which have been ordered.

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